

SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE PRODUCED BY TRADING STANDARDS

Supplementary information by Andrew Fayers of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Trading Standards Service to the licence review of March Express (PL number 17/0840/LAPRE) dated the 6th December, submitted by Andrew Fayers of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Trading Standards Service.

On the 11 January at 21.20 hours I (Andrew Fayers) entered the premises of March Express, 4 Station Road, March. I entered with a Trading Standards colleague (Annamarie Scott-Coomber) and 2 police officers through the front door whilst a Trading Standards Officer (Kirsty Draycott) and Police Officer waited around the back of the shop. When I entered, a shop worker was present at the till. I introduced myself and then I was joined by Kirst Draycott carrying a box containing illicit tobacco, and Swarra Amin, (the DPS), and a the police officer came from the back of the shop towards where I was standing near to the till as well. Swarra Amin had been seen exiting the shop premises from the back door and attempting to hide the box containing the illicit tobacco between some bins just outside the back door. The tobacco was seized and removed from the premises. I asked for a copy of the CCTV from the night but Swarra Amin stated that he had not got any DVD's to make a recording. I seized the recorder and this was also removed from the premises. It did appear that not all cameras were working and the camera in the back store was behind the monitor, so did not show a picture.

This box contained cigarettes and hand rolling tobacco were not labelled in compliance with UK labelling laws namely Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016 and the Standardised Packaging of Tobacco Regulations 2015. These products are also non-duty paid. Included in the seized tobacco was Marlboro Gold, the same brand as the recent test purchases. Also amongst the seized tobacco was suspected counterfeit (fake) Amber Leaf hand rolling tobacco and counterfeit (fake) Richmond cigarettes. It is likely that the cigarettes would fail the reduced propensity test and therefore not self-extinguish if not smoked.

Amounts seized:

Hand Rolling Tobacco 2900g

Cigarettes 5600 sticks